VI.—BILLS.

(1) THE MADRAS MUNICIPAL AND LOCAL BOARDS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1947.

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" Sir, I beg to move—

'that the Madras Municipal and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill,[a] *1947 (L.A. Bill No. 32 of 1947), as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration at once.'*

" The primary object of this amendment is just to remedy a flaw that has crept into the Local Boards Act and three Acts, that is, the Municipal Act, Local Boards Act and the Madras City Corporation Act. Whenever any municipality or local board is abolished, its properties are taken up by the Government and transferred to others but the Act does not give any provision to transfer the liabilities to the local bodies or the other institutions without the consent of the persons concerned or the bodies concerned. Now by this amendment of the Act that technical flaw is removed and power is taken with retrospective effect, so as to regularize the previous Acts."

The motion was carried and the Bill was considered.

Clause 2 was put and carried.
Clause 3 was put and carried.
Clause 4 was put and carried.
Clause 1 was put and carried.
The Preamble was put and carried

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" Sir, I move—

'that the Bill be passed into law.'

" I thank the Members for passing the Bill without any delay."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" If at all the Hon. Minister should thank anybody, he should thank the President."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

(2) THE MADRAS PLACES OF PUBLIC RESORT (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1947.

• THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, I move—

'that the Madras Places of Public Resort (Amendment) Bill[b]*, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 33 of 1947), as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration at once.'*

" Sir, the managements of circuses, amusements and other entertainments are not subject to the licensing provisions of the present Act in areas just outside the municipal limits. To avoid taking out licences, these people hold their shows in those places. No manner of control can be exercised over them by either the municipal authority or the concerned local authorities. These

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[a] Printed as Appendix X on page 739 infra.

[b] Printed as Appendix XI on page 740 infra.

exhibitions thus become a source of danger to the health and safety of the public. There is a provision for issuing a special notificaton under section 1 (3) of the Act for extending the provisions of the Act to non-municipal areas but this takes time. It was therefore thought best to make the provisions of this Act directly applicable to places within a distance of three miles from the municipal limits. The municipal councils and the District Magistrates who were consulted in this matter have expressed opinions in favour of this amendment. The Director of Public Health also has supported it. The object of the new clauses 13-A, 13-B and 13-C has been explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons."

The motion was put and carried.

Clause 2 was put and carried.

Clause 1 was put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I now move, Sir—

' *that the Bill be passed into law.*' "

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

(3) THE MADRAS SHOPS AND ESTABLISHMENTS BILL, 1947—*cont*.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Now the discussion for the consideration of the Madras Shops and Establishments Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 15 of 1947) will continue."

SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI :—" The Congress is pledged to improve the lot of the peasants and the workers. I am glad that legislation to improve the lot of these two classes is rapidly pushed through. The clerks and servants in shops and servers in catering houses are all overworked and it is but right that the present Bill is now before the legislature. The Bill is framed on the lines of the Factory Act containing the following provisions :—

(1) Working hours—8 hours.

(2) Provision for overwork—Double wages.

(3) Holidays with pay and weekly holidays.

" The hours of work specially in restaurants and cinemas will have to be fixed in such a way that the health of not only the people who work in them is safeguarded but also of the people who frequent them. At present, some restaurants work till midnight. I am aware of one tea-stall at Vizianagram which is kept open all day and night. Second shows in the cinemas run into the midnight. No eating house or cinema should work after 10 p.m. People should have sleep for a good number of hours.

" To make the people follow the rules, the Government should appoint honorary Inspectors from the localiity. These Inspectors will duly advise the people and they need not be invested with powers to prosecute."